



June 14, 2003

The Honorable William Thomas  
Chairman  
United States House of Representatives  
Ways and Means Committee  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Mr. Chairman:

On behalf of the National Association of Health Underwriters (NAHU) and its 17,000 members who provide health benefits to millions of American health care consumers, including Medicare beneficiaries, NAHU is pleased to offer our support for your Medicare reform legislation. Providing Medicare beneficiaries with the same kinds of health plan choices those in the under 65 health insurance market have will not only allow them to select a health plan best suited to their personal needs but will also protect the long-term financial integrity of the Medicare program itself. We believe your legislation maximizes the benefits available to beneficiaries and allows greater access to the best medical technology. We also support your goal of providing additional financial assistance to low-income beneficiaries who need help the most, and for providing all beneficiaries access to a prescription drug benefit.

NAHU supports expanding choices and creating incentives that will provide Medicare beneficiaries with the ability to choose how their health care is delivered. Your legislation creates this type of flexibility within the Medicare program. We greatly appreciate this effort and look forward to working with you toward achieving enactment of your bill this year.

Sincerely,

Janet Trautwein  
Vice President of Government Affairs